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P.001

NO. OF PAGES: 11 (Transmittal & Amendment)

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)				Docket No. 1791.007	
Applicant(s): Van Acker					
Application No. 10/785,145	Filing Date 02/24/2004	Examiner Jesús D. Sotelo	Customer No. 23405	Group Art Unit 3617	Confirmation No. 8182
Invention: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR ALLOWING UNDERWATER ESCAPE FROM A SUBMARINE					

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- Applicant claims small entity status. Sec 37 CFR 1.27

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	34	33 =	1 x	\$9.00	\$9.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	5	4 =	1 x	\$44.00	\$44.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$53.00

- No additional fee is required for amendment.
 Please charge Deposit Account No. **08-1935** in the amount of
 A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **08-1935**
 Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
 Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Victor A. Cardona
Signature

Dated: December 6, 2004

VICTOR A. CARDONA, ESQ.
Attorney for Applicant - Reg. No. 44,589

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.
5 Columbia Circle
Albany, New York 12203
Phone: 518-452-5600
Fax: 518-452-5579

CC:

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on December 6, 2004 to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, Attn: Examiner Jesus D. Sotelo Group Art Unit 3617, at Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.

Victor A. Cardona
Victor A. Cardona, Esq.
Registration No. 44,589
Attorney for Applicants

Date of Signature: December 6, 2004

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HESLIN ROTHENBERG

TEL: 518 452 5579

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Docket No.: 1791.007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<i>Applicant:</i>	Van Acker	<i>Confirmation No.:</i>	8182
<i>Serial No.:</i>	10/785,145	<i>Group Art Unit:</i>	3617
<i>Filed:</i>	February 24, 2004	<i>Examiner:</i>	Jesus D. Sotelo
<i>Title:</i>	SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR ALLOWING UNDERWATER ESCAPE FROM A SUBMARINE		

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Victor A. Cardona
Victor A. Cardona, Esq.
Registration No. 44,589
Attorney for Applicants

Date of Signature: December 6, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Fax No.: (703) 872-9306
No. of Pages: 11
(including Amendment Transmittal)

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on September 29, 2004, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The three-month period for response expires on December 29, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper